

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) Oil extracted from the seeds of *Momordica charantia* L.; useful as anti-inflammatory, anti-arthritis, vasculodilatory and wound healing agent, said oil comprising essentially of:

Capric acid	0.7-1.2% by wt.
Lauric acid	0.6-1% by wt.
Palmitic acid	4.2-5.0% by wt.
Stearic acid	59-62% by wt.
Oleic acid	13-15% by wt.
Arachidic acid	3-5% by wt.
Linoleic acid	8-10% by wt.
Other undetected minor acids	6-8% by wt.

2. (previously presented) Oil as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

Capric acid	0.9% by wt.
Lauric acid	0.8% by wt.
Palmitic acid	4.2% by wt.
Stearic acid	60.90% by wt.
Oleic acid	13.30% by wt.
Arachidic acid	3.20% by wt.
Linoleic acid	9.80% by wt.
Other undetected minor acids	6.90% by wt.

~~3. (cancelled) A novel oil composition comprising:
oil extracted from the seeds of *Momordica charantia* L. according to claim 1,
one or more vegetable oils,
fragrance oil
essential oil
and at least one perfume component~~

~~70 to 80% by wt.
15 to 25% by wt.
3% by wt.
1% by wt.
2% by wt.~~

~~4. (cancelled) The oil composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein the vegetable oil is selected from the group consisting of: sesame oil, coconut oil, groundnut oil, olive oil, palm oil and other foodgrade oil.~~

5. ~~(cancelled)~~ The oil composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein the essential oil is selected from the group consisting of: rose oil, sandalwood oil, geranium oil and lavender oil.

6. ~~(cancelled)~~ The oil composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein the composition is in physical forms selected from the group consisting of: cream, gel, lotion, capsule and combinations thereof.

7. ~~(cancelled)~~ The oil composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein the composition is prepared by mixing the oil extracted from *Momordica charantia* L. with suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

³ ~~8. (withdrawn currently amended)~~ A process for ^{PREPARING} the ~~extraction of~~ oil from the seeds of *Momordica charantia* L. of claim 1, comprising the steps of:

- (i) grinding dry seeds to a fine powder in a suitable mill,
- (ii) treating the pulverized seeds with a mixture of non-polar solvents,
- (iii) allowing the mixture to stand for 48 hours at room temperature so that the oil separates out,
- (iv) collecting the oil from the supernatant layer using a separating funnel,
- (v) refluxing the mixture obtained in step (iv) with any non-polar solvent to remove the last traces of oil,
- (vi) purifying the oil by adding 2-5% zinc acetate dissolved in water to precipitate the salts with impurities from the oil, and
- (vii) analysis of the oil extracted by gas liquid chromatography. ³

⁴ ~~9. (withdrawn)~~ The process as claimed in claim ~~8~~ wherein the seeds of *Momordica charantia* L., are split, washed thoroughly with water 2-3 times to render the seeds substantially free from impurities and dried under vacuum before said grinding.

⁵ ~~10. (withdrawn)~~ The process as claimed in claim ~~8~~ wherein the non-polar solvent comprises a mixture of acetone with an aromatic or aliphatic hydrocarbon selected from the group consisting of benzene, hexane, petroleum ether and ethyl ether. ⁵

⁶ ~~11. (withdrawn)~~ The process as claimed in claim ~~10~~ wherein the ratio of the aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon in the non-polar solvent mixture is 2:1.

⁷ ~~12. (withdrawn currently amended)~~ A method of treating a disease or condition in a patient body, comprising applying ~~an oil extracted from Momordica charantia L., or its composition as claimed in claim 1~~ ^{THE} ~~[[or 2]]~~, on an affected area of the patient body for a period of about six to twenty weeks, wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of: inflammation, arthritis, vasculodilation and wounds.

OR A COMPOSITION COMPRISING THE
OIL OF CLAIM 1